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SPRINT COMMUNICATIONS COMPANY, LP  
6391 SPRINT PARKWAY  
OVERLAND PARK, KANSAS 66251-2100

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In re Application of  
Douglas Johnson  
Application No. 09/981,461  
Filed: October 17, 2001  
Attorney Docket No. 00,284

OFFICE OF PETITIONS  
ON PETITION

This is a decision on the petition under 37 CFR 1.137(b), filed May 20, 2004, to revive the above-identified application.

The petition is **GRANTED**.

The above-identified application became abandoned for failure to reply in a timely manner to the non-final Office action mailed July 16, 2003, which set a shortened statutory period for reply of three (3) months. No extensions of time under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a) were obtained. Accordingly, the above-identified application became abandoned on October 17, 2003.

An extension of time under 37 CFR 1.136 must be filed prior to the expiration of the maximum extendable period for reply. See In re Application of S., 8 USPQ2d 1630, 1631 (Comm'r Pats. 1988). Accordingly, since the \$950 extension of time submitted with the petition on May 20, 2004 was subsequent to the maximum extendable period for reply, this fee is unnecessary and will be credited to petitioner's deposit account.

Telephone inquiries concerning this decision should be directed to Irvin Dingle at (703) 306-5684.

The application will be forwarded to Technology Center AU 2643 for further processing.

Irvin Dingle  
Petitions Examiner  
Office of Petitions  
Office of the Deputy Commissioner  
for Patent Examination Policy